

# THE WORLD OF SPORT.

## Ketchel Will Have His Hands Full When He Tackles Langford

By TOMMY CLARK.

WHILE the fight fans the country over have gone almost daffy over the Jim Jeffries-Jack Johnson mill they should stop for a moment and glance at the pugilist-calender. They would see that there is another big championship fight on the list. The battle is second in importance to the big scrap. Stanley Ketchel, the mid-dleweight champion, and Sam Langford, the hard hitting Boston negro, are to exchange wallop in Philadelphia April 27. The bout between the pair promises to be a grudge affair and a pugilistic plum the many fight fol-lowers have been after for many moons.

With the men in first class condition the battle should result in one of the best ever staged in this or any other country. Both men are prominent members of Walloperville society and carry in either hand punches that have the power of a mule's kick behind them. Added to this is the fact that the men are game to the core. Langford is a larger edition of Joe Walcott, the little negro who made things very warm for the heavyweights in the east several years ago, and for the past few years he has been a sort of bogey man for the middle and light heavyweights.

Although the battle is to be nothing more than a six round affair, there should be lots of action from gong to gong, providing, of course, that the contest is not a neatly framed agree-ment between the principals to have the bout last the six round limit, with a view to getting a long route date and fat purse on the coast later on. One thing is certain, Ketchel has far too much respect for Langford's slugging powers to take the liberty of entering a ring with the "Boston tar baby" for an opponent unless he is convinced that the negro is working under a pull or he himself is in the very best pos-sible condition that hard and earnest training can produce. Also fight fans in general are still pondering over Langford's quick knockout of Jim Flynn recently, a short time after he had allowed the Pueblo fireman to abuse him shamefully in a ten round go. These be matters which bear ripe fruit for deep thinking, and the not too confiding members of the sport loving public are thinking hard.

There is only one way to account for Stanley Ketchel's poor showing against Frank Klaus in Pittsburgh recently, and that is that the middleweight cham-pion took things easy when he found that Klaus was safe in his hands. No decisions are given in the six round contests at Pittsburgh, and on this ac-count Ketchel did not waver away as he would in a bout where his title was at stake or in a battle where he stood chances of losing a decision. The big fighters have their own ideas about how the should fight, and at times their method of milking does not mesh with the approval of the public, but they are looking after their own interest first and do not seem to care for what the fans say after the match is over.

Some of the fight critics are inclined to believe that Ketchel has started on

the toboggan. This can hardly be true. Ketchel has whipped all the best middleweights in this country and can do so again, but he must be in condi-tion. Ketchel, they say, needs a lot of hard training to make him fit. He is a high flier and does not take the proper care of himself when there is nothing in sight for him. After his contest with Klaus, Ketchel gave an an-

when he tackles Langford he is in for the greatest beating he ever received. Stanley is one of the most aggressive fighters the ring ever had and just the kind of a man Langford likes to meet—one that is always coming at him. To prove this one has only to see the moving pictures of his recent contest with Jim Flynn. "In this fight the ne-gro waited for the fireman to come to

In talking of his coming fight with Langford, Ketchel said recently: "I'll beat this fellow Langford sure. If Jim Flynn can go the route with him and slug even with him I'm cer-tain that he won't last the six with me. This will be the first time I've really trained since the Johnson fight, and I'm just crazy to get back again. I've had a good rest since October, and the only thing that bothers me a bit is this left hand."

### Horsemen In Doubt About New Rule.

Months before the new rule relating to the abolishment of the use of hoppers in harness racing will be in even limited operation and almost simul-taneously with the announcement of its enactment the periodicals of the trot-ting turf are asking whether the rule will ever become effective when it be-gins to bar hoppers on horses of all ages. Doubts are expressed as to the power of the National Trotting asso-ciation to enforce the rule without los-ing a large number of its members among the fair associations and the half mile tracks, and the impression seems general that as between the two horns of the dilemma the central organization will not hesitate to choose whatever course will keep its mem-ber-ship roll intact.

Departing from all plans that had been suggested for riding or in training finish out their careers with their value unimpaired and at the same time to head off the youngsters coming on, so that when the time limit expires, in 1914, only a handful of hoppers will remain to be affected by the final operation of the rule.

Whether it will work out according to the expectations of the rule makers remains to be seen. Although no pacer foaled in or after 1904 can hereafter, under the rule, race in hoppers, every trainer in the country is still free to start as many new hopped horses as before, provided they are of the re-quired age. The crop of recruits in the coming campaign will not be re-duced to any appreciable extent what-ever by the operation of the rule, since two-year-olds alone are affected this year. Next year another equally long leg of accessions to the hopped brigade may be expected, for the number of pacers under four years old on the turf is another big brigade of newcom-ers, as the rule will then have no effect on horses over four years old, and the great majority of harness horses on the circuit tracks are of that age.

In 1912, when the new provision of the turf code will for the first time affect a large number of horses, the ranks of the hopped brigade are very likely to be just about as strong and formidable as they are today, and it will be sur-

prising to many horsemen if a deter-mined attempt is not then made by those interested to repeal or nullify the rule. By standing its ground and re-fusing to recede from the position taken at the recent congress, the N. T. A. may have to risk the secession

work of the smaller pugilists as well as the big fellows. Big Jim is now ap-pearing on the vaudeville circuit and is receiving a nice fat salary for do-ing a monologue stunt. Corbett tells many interesting stories of his travels. Among them is a good one about

who had never seen a boxing match or ever heard of Welch. This was a sur-prise to Corbett, so he took his friend to see the fight between Welch and Summers at the National Sportfing club. The Londoner was apparently very much interested in the show, and Jim thought he had done him a favor by bringing him to the club to see two of the best pugilists in England mix it up. The day after the fight Corbett was dining at a leading hotel when it comes his British friend.

"Wasn't that a dandy fight we at-tended last night?" asked Jim.

"Was that a fight?" queried the Eng-lishman.

"I should say it was," replied Cor-bett. "Welch drew blood in the early part of the contest and had Summers bleeding all the time."

"It's bloody well I know that," re-plied the Englishman, "but I did not think he was half as good at fighting as he was in decorating the other fel-low's body with his bloody glove."

Welch's glove was covered with blood, and every time he hit his op-ponent it left a crimson spot on Sum-mers' body. This is what interested the Englishman, and made him refer to Welch as a decorator rather than a boxer.

### Cleveland Has Visions Again.

Cleveland, by the way, is again an-roying itself with pennant aspirations. Cleveland does this annually, and with pretty good reasons generally. This season the team has as com-mander the man who in some quarters is credited with bringing the Boston Americans out of the slough into the limelight—McGinnis. Since he took hold of the team he has tried valiantly to strengthen his club and get it out of the hopeless condition of slowness into which it has fallen. Some new timber is in the lineup of the club, and a shift has been made in the infield and another has been made in the out-field. But the club as it stands does not seem of pennant caliber.

The Forest City is surely the place of shattered baseball hopes. It has something on St. Louis in this respect. It has been the favorite in a number of championship efforts and has run so close that once it was within one-half a game of first place, but it has never done better than come close, al-though the rowdy team of O'Conner, Tebeau and company won the Temple cup from the Baltimore.

### An Old, Old Story.

That threadbare argument as to which of the big leagues is the stronger has been revived by Hans Wagner. An automobile company has offered a machine as a prize to the lead-ing batsman of the American or Na-tion league—not a machine for each league, mind you, but one car for the highest percentage for the year 1910. Wagner opines that the contest is not fair because his circuit has the best pitchers and fielders. He on you. Bonus! You know it cannot be proved. But you may close your eyes and see the official scorers in the home towns turning errors into base hits if the race gets close.

That Ida Conquest is a member of Nazimova's company, at the latter's new theater, in "Little Eynid". That the famous theatrical land-mark, Wallace's theater, in Broadway — of blessed memories — has again changed hands, Charles Burnham be-ing the lessee?

### A STAR FROM CALIFORNIA.

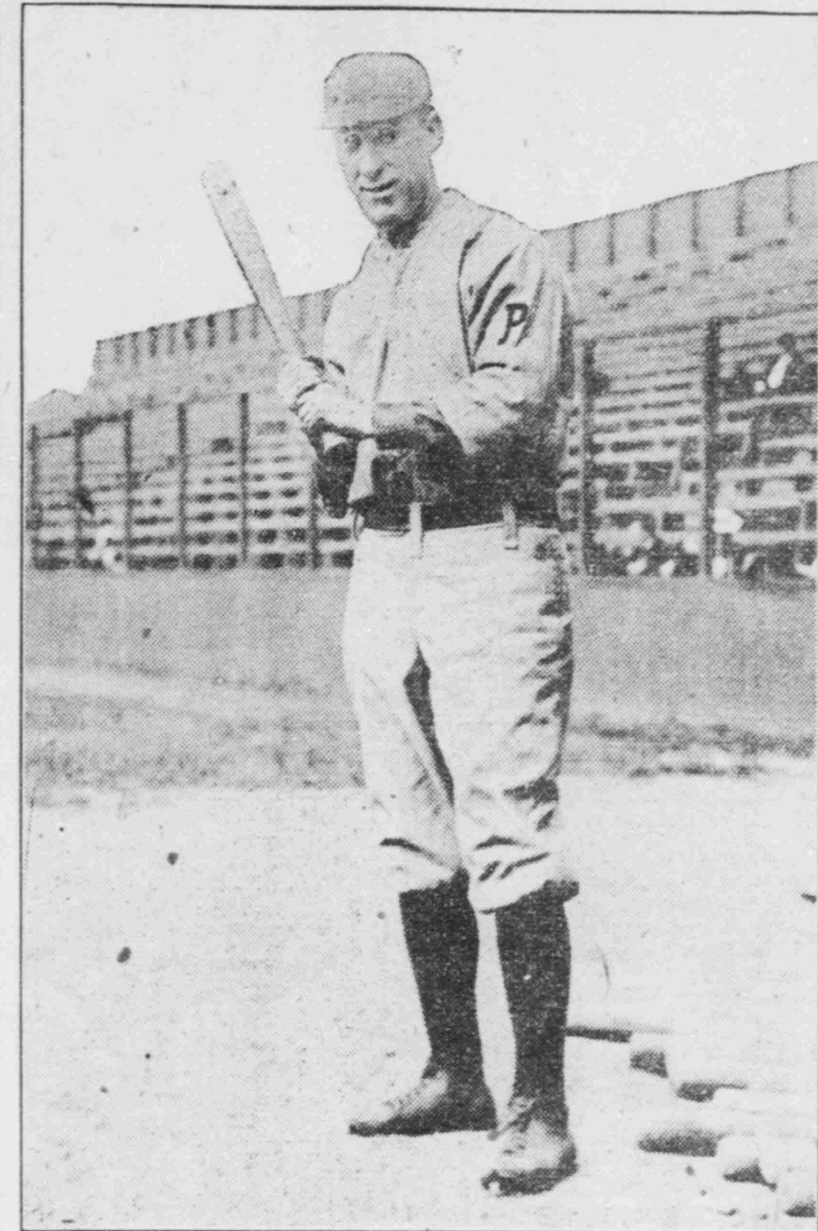
Some months ago Frederic Thomp-son (the Mabel Taliferro's husband, you know) was sunbathing in Califor-nia. Naturally he visited the theater. One day while he was in Los Angeles he dropped in a house where a stock company was playing. One of the com-pany impressed him favorably. She was Thais Magrane. After the per-formance Mr. Thompson called on the young lady and told her he wanted her for a star part in his production.



MISS THAIS MAGRANE.

"The Spendthrift" which he was go-ing to bring out in New York city. Miss Magrane said she was under contract to play with the company she was then with. Mr. Thompson saw her manager and induced him to let Miss Magrane cancel her contract. This was done with some reluctance. But Mr. Thompson won his star, and for weeks she studied the part she is now playing. The play is by the au-thor of "A Fool There Was". Miss Magrane is especially striking in emo-tional parts, and when she appeared in the leading feminine role of "The Spendthrift" she fulfilled the expecta-tions of Mr. Thompson, and his Japa-nese and Swedish and a few Ameri-cans?

That Mrs. Sol Smith is the oldest actress on the American stage, having recently celebrated her eightieth birth-day, and that she is still acting, not because she loves the stage, as she says, but because she must support her family and the stage business is all she knows?



"SILENT JOHN" TITUS, ONE OF PHILLIES' CRACK OUTFIELDERS

As an inducement to make him more aggressive Manager Charley Doolin of the Philadelphia Nationals has offered to pay the fines imposed by the umpires on "Silent John" Titus, one of the crack outfielders of the Phillies. Titus is known as one of the quietest men in the game, and Manager Doolin figures that with a little more fire added to his timely batting, good fielding and base run-ning he would double his value to the team.

of most of its members among the half mile tracks and the county fair asso-ciations and the formation of a new central organization similar to the old one.

### One of Corbett's Yarns.

Jim Corbett, the former heavyweight champion, keeps close tabs on the

Freddie Welch, the English light-weight champion. It happened in London. As is well known, England is head and heels in love with Welch on account of his many good fights in this country. Nearly every one has Freddie's record down pat from be-ginning to end. Jim, however, ran across a wealthy young Englishman

in F and the drummer "whacks" an obligate the specialists in nearly seats get as pale as a bunch of death masks. It signifies not if the "whack" is according to the score, the drummer is raked, and the manager of the house gets it where the beads sparkled on Betty.

Mr. Belasco has endeavored to soothe the specialists by hiding his orchestra, but what is one Belasco in the great book of managers? Other accessories of the stage have got theirs. Why not the orchestra?

### HAVE YOU HEARD—

That when the "Chantecler" comes to this country Miss Maude Adams will take the role of the cock instead of the hen pheasant?

That the child who plays a part in "A Skylark," a summer musical com-edy, Bernice Allen, is only four feet eleven inches tall and that she has the most wonderful hair, that is five feet two inches long and that she says is the worry of her life?

That a recent Puritan sensation now playing in this country is a funny piece full of melody, and that it is called "The Girl With the Whopping Cough," and that every member of the company develops the malady before the final curtain?

That when the "Chantecler" comes here it will not be the same, as a whole, which Paris saw—that the third act is so full of French political allusions and quips that it will have to be cut out entirely?

That if a woman knows how to whistle she can earn good money on the stage, and that there is a school in New York in which women who have any talent for whistling are taught to pucker artistically, and that the secret of whistling is putting two notes to-gether so as to produce a trill?

That George Ade's new play, "The City Chap," was first brought out not long ago in the Indiana town which is the author's home by a club of Pur-due, Ind.?

That in the opinion of a Chicago critic Lulu Glaser in "Just One of the Boys" has "lost the Glaser snifle, that pseudo catarrhal inhalation whose noisy stillbance was wont in other days to mark her as the funniest nose and throat comedienne of her time?"

That Joseph Edmunds, actor by trade, recently made a bet that he could act the clown in a circus with the best of them and win out and that while he was "playing the fool" he was kicked by a mule and put out of com-mission and lost his bet?

That the leading people of the New theater while out on the road will be accompanied by valets and maids, nine of each, and that one is a Japanese, the others being French, German, Hun-garian and Swedish and a few Ameri-cans?

That Mrs. Sol Smith is the oldest actress on the American stage, having recently celebrated her eightieth birth-day, and that she is still acting, not because she loves the stage, as she says, but because she must support her family and the stage business is all she knows?

about the same size. The chimpan- zee has already learned how to sit at a table and eat, how to make a bow, use his napkin, and his latest achieve-ment is to stand on roller skates. He has to have some help in this. Left to himself he would tumble and sprawl, but when his skates are adjusted he gives his paw to Weenie Wee, and she supports him while he stands erect. The chimpanzee seems to understand that Weenie Wee is his best friend. Although docile to his keeper, he re-fuses to obey any one in observing rules of etiquette except his young mistress. When Weenie Wee is absent from her charge the chimpanzee acts as if he were lonely and watches im-patiently for her return. When she appears the chimpanzee gives every evidence of joy. Weenie Wee and Charles the First take their meals to-gether.

For a midget Weenie Wee is some-thing of a wit and a philosopher as well. Asked if she expected to teach her pupil to talk, she replied: "I hope not. He will be happier if he never learns that." Weenie is a colored child, nineteen years old, and was born in Pennsylvania.

### Wenie Wee's Chimpanzee Pupil.

Weenie Wee is the midget who will tour New England and other territory this season with the Barnum & Bailey circus. Her pupil, Charles the First, is a chimpanzee that is being taught how to act like a human being, and Weenie Wee is giving him lessons. Both are

### KNOCKING THE ORCHESTRA.

Actors have been figuratively ham-mered, and actresses have ditto been guyed. If abuse changed facial ex-pressions some managers would not be recognized when they went home. Nothing seems just right to a whole lot of people. If a deaf man sits in the "Cherokee strip" of a theater and doesn't catch the stage whispers he goes out and damns the acoustics of the playhouse. The whole gamut has been worn smooth by the traders.

Now it is the orchestra that is being whacked like a winter rug on a roof. There are orchestras and orchestras, just as there are shanties and man-sions. But in some quarters all orches-tras are alike, on the poetic principle that a primrose by the river's brim is just a primrose and nothing more.

If the orchestra, according to the flayers, sandwiches with operatic se-lections there is an uprising. And if scraps of popular airs are interlarded between curtains there is an outpour of execration that would make an angel unstring a celestial harp.

Then there are the specialists in the bunch of orchestra censors. To some of these the cello, the oboe, the violin, the piccolo, etc., breathe nothing but divine harmonies, but these same spe-cialists rise up like a surprised aggre-gation of yellow jackets if the man with the drum's given a chance to earn his beer. The beat of a drum to some, no matter how accurate the "whack" may be, is like a sensitive toe's contact with an overloose stone in the path.

The specialists are ready to thump everything in the catalogue of the drummer's "traps." Kettledrums, ka-zoo, cymbals and shuffles are object-ed to. To acute ears the sounds from any of these are as the rasp of a file on a rusty saw.

If the number is Rubinstein's "Melody"



GEORGE MULLIN, DETROIT AMERICANS' STAR TWIRLER.

Judging by the grand form he has been displaying in the recent games, Pitcher George Mullin of the Tigers is out to eclipse his performances of last season, when he headed the list of winning twirlers on Ban Johnson's circuit by capturing twenty-nine out of thirty-seven games pitched. Mullin has a large assortment of curves and splendid control. Besides being a good slab artist he is one of the best batting pitchers in the game.

excuse for his poor showing that he hurt his hand in the first round and the pain was so severe that he did not have the heart to fight in his usual style. This may be true. Let us hope so, as it would be a shame for such a young and promising lad as Ketchel to be thrown in the discard pile sim-ply because he will not train as other fighters do.

If Ketchel is not in the best of shape

him, and nearly every time he did Langford would measure his blows and send in a crushing punch that would stagger his opponent. Every time Flynn rushed he seemed to be carry-ing Langford off his feet. Just before the knockout occurred, in the eighth round, Flynn had Langford backed to the ropes. As Flynn rushed, Langford waited and sent in a terrific smash that put the fireman down and out.

## THE "OLD CLOWN'S" WEDDING

Unique Ceremony on the Tanbark—The First of Its Kind—Tirades on the Orchestra—Child Tutor to a Chimpanzee. A Star From California.

By FRANK H. BROOKS.

SOME said it was a circus trick when two of the Ringling brothers invited a select group of newspaper writers, maga-zine editors and cartoonists to attend the wedding of one of the clowns of the Barnum & Bailey show (Ring-lings' property now).

But when the clown and the young woman, the latter attended by three "ladies of the circus," the former by three clowns, appeared in the center ring of Madison Square Garden, stood before a young minister in the black robes of his order, and he raised his hands and said, "Dearly be-loved, we are gathered together here in the sight of God," a hush fell upon the scene and a "pale east of thought" broke through the paint and powder of the jesters. Then all present knew it was no circus trick.

The clown who became a husband in this unique manner and place (it was Sunday afternoon, and the big bell in the campanile tower in Madison square stroked the hour of 3 as the minister uttered the first words) was Harry La Pearle. The bride was Miss Frances McGinley of Chicago—not of the profes-sion.

No more grotesquely garbed groom ever stood up in the same way. His motley dress was that in which he "plays the fool" to the delight of chil-dren, and some who have passed into their second childhood, twice a day for six days in the weeks of the circus season. His attendants were similarly made up.

The young woman was simply gown-ed, just as she might have been at a reception in her own home. She was both modest and pretty. Although she had never been connected with a circus or any other profession, the bride and groom had known each other for many years, and the bride had been a favorite with the clown's family that dates back to the tanbark long before he was born. They had never thought of a wedding such as the one in which they figured. They were to have been married quietly, and the young woman went to New York for that purpose, because her husband would be on the road during the season and the show would not touch Chicago in its travels. But when the two Ringling brothers in the east heard of the intentions they obtained the consent of the twin, and they were married as described. (For the Ringlings are showmen.)

When the ring was placed on the bride's finger and the ceremony had been said the young minister again raised his hands and words seldom, perhaps never, heard before in a cir-cus ring, "Let us pray," were uttered.

The bride and groom and their at-tendants, devoutly knelt on the tan-bark in the great amphitheater, and led by the minister, they repeated the Lord's Prayer, while the forty-six clowns in fantastic and outre garb bowed their heads and the invited guests, a hundred in number, men of travel, men of letters and men ac-customed to all sorts and conditions of affairs, likewise reverently stood.

The wedding was over. The attend-ing bridesmaids and the old clown's attendants unfurled in doing what is customary in such conditions in homes and at the altar. Then the forty-six

clowns went into the ring from their tables and extended felicitations to the bride and congratulations to the groom.

The bridal party was conducted with all propriety to the table on a dais in another ring, and all present partook of the collation. There were toasts, sentimental and otherwise, from clowns and guests, and telegrams and letters of regret from people well known, literary and professional, were read.

The lights were turned on in the ample show house before the unique gathering broke up. Mr. Lou Graham,



THE JESTER AND HIS BRIDE AND ATTENDANTS.

The circus bridal party at luncheon after the wedding ceremony in the center ring of the Barnum & Bailey show in New York city, Sunday, April 3, 1910. Groom and bride are indicated by arrow. The invitation to the luncheon appears in the upper left hand corner; the picture of Weenie Wee, the midget, and her chimpanzee pupil in the lower right hand corner.